

NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION CENTER



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basic imagery interpretation report

Mielec Airframe Plant WSK (S)

STRATEGIC WEAPONS INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES

POLAND

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RCA-09/25X1/79
MARCH 1980
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INSTALLATION OR ACTIVITY NAME	COUNTRY
Mielec Airframe Plant WSK	PL

UTM COORDINATES	GEOGRAPHIC COORDINATES	CATEGORY	BE NO.	COMIREX NO.	NIETB NO.
NA	50-18-40N 021-27-45E				

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MAP REFERENCE

DMAAC. USATC, Series 200, Sheet FP0232-14HL, 5th ed, Dec 77, scale 1:200,000 (SECRET)

LATEST IMAGERY USED	NEGATION DATE (If required)
	NA

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Installation Name	Geographic Coordinates	Category	BE No	COMIREX No	NIETB (MRN) No
Mielec Airfield	50-19-23N 021-27-33E				

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ABSTRACT

1. (TSR) This report discusses the construction and production activity observed at Mielec Airframe Plant WSK in Poland from [] the information cutoff date, and updates previous NPIC reports, []. The latest available imagery used in the report was acquired on [] (No usable imagery of this facility was acquired between [] []). Significant construction activity during the reporting period, including construction still underway on the cutoff date, increased the overall floorspace by 95,650 square meters, for a total plant floorspace of 403,380 square meters.

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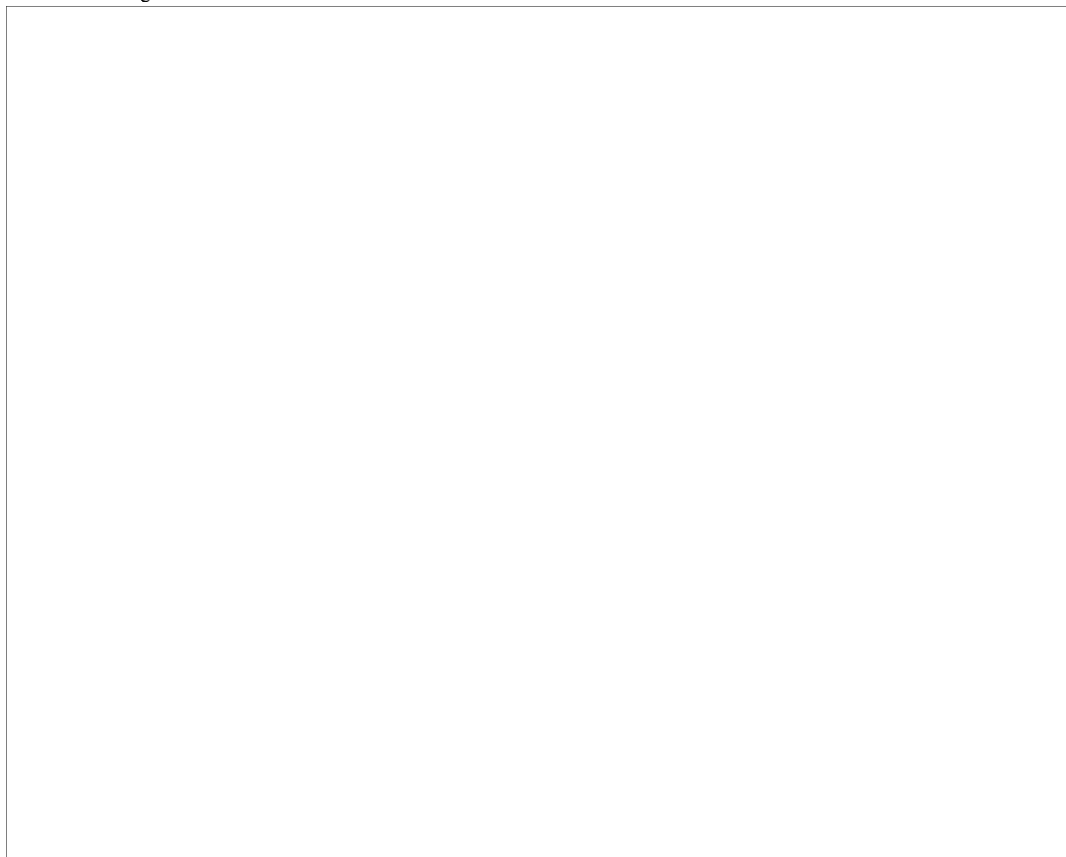
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2. (S/WNINTEL) Currently, the M-15 jet agricultural aircraft, the AN-2 (COLT) multipurpose biplane, the TS-11 (ISKRA) jet trainer, and the M-18 (DROMADER) aircraft are being produced at Mielec. Series production of the AN-28 (CASH) passenger/transport aircraft is scheduled to begin at Mielec in 1980. Assembly of the AM-20 (PIPER SENECA) executive aircraft should begin in 1980. Also, parts for the IL-86 (CAMBER) airbus and several nonaircraft-associated items, such as diesel engines and golf carts, are produced at this plant.

3. (S) This report includes a location map, six annotated photographs, and two tables of mensural and chronological data.

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BASIC DESCRIPTION**Construction Activity**

4. (TSR) A significant amount of construction activity has occurred at Mielec Airframe Plant WSK (Figures 1, 2, and 3) since [] the information cutoff date for the last basic report.¹ Approximately 95,650 square meters of floorspace have been added to the facility, with 46,439 square meters being production related. With the addition of 20 new buildings and three additions to existing buildings, the overall floorspace at the plant has increased to 403,380 square meters. A detailed chronological discussion of construction activity observed from [] is presented in paragraphs 5 through 8.

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5. (TSR) Building construction during this time period contributed mainly to the storage and support capacity of the plant. Additions to a large warehouse (items 44d, e, and f, Figure 3 and Table 1), a storage building (item 81), a shop building (item 76), and a support building (item 73) were completed. Also, a multistory administration section (item 67b) was added to a warehouse. A shop building (item 20) with 979 square meters of floorspace was razed. This construction activity increased plant floorspace by 19,549 square meters.

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6. (TSR) Although a significant amount of construction—much of it production related—was begun, very little was completed. Three small support buildings (items 70, 71, and 74), two shop buildings (items 77 and 80), and a storage/support building (item 63) were completed. Two large support buildings (items 55 and 56), totaling 6,136 square meters of floorspace, were razed to allow construction of a parking lot, which resulted in a net loss of 1,312 square meters of usable floorspace.

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7. (TSR) An assembly building (item 1) had been completed by []. In addition, a shop building (item 79), a support building (item 78), and a storage/support building (item 86) were completed. Three small storage buildings, totaling 1,626 square meters of floorspace, were razed to make room for the construction of a probable warehouse (item 82). This construction activity increased plant floorspace by 27,300 square meters.

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8. (TSR) A significant amount of floorspace was still under construction as of []. Two subassembly buildings (items 69 and 72), shop additions (items 42d and e) to the forge/foundry building, a storage/support building (item 84), a probable shop building (item 75), a probable warehouse (item 82), and two unidentified buildings (items 83 and 85) were still under construction. When complete, this construction will provide at least an additional 50,116 square meters of floorspace.

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Miscellaneous Construction

9. (TSR) In addition to building construction, several other types of miscellaneous construction was completed or underway in the plant area (Figure 3). A small, fence-secured apron in the southeastern plant area was observed complete on []. Two other concrete storage areas in the eastern and northwestern plant areas were observed complete on imagery of []. A small probable POL storage area containing six cylindrical tanks was still under construction in the northwestern plant area as of []. A new American-deck (induced-draft) cooler appeared to have been completed by []. Additionally, a coal-fired electric powerplant was still under construction southeast of the plant just outside the fence line (Figure 3).

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Production Activity

10. (TSR) Mielec Plant WSK is a diversified production facility at which both civilian and military equipment of widely divergent types are produced. The AN-2 (COLT) biplane, TS-11 (ISKRA) jet trainer, and M-15 (BELPHEGOR) agricultural jet were under production during most of the period of this report and the M-18 (DROMADER) aircraft went into series production in 1979.

11. (TSR) COLT aircraft production between 1975 and 1977 was estimated to be 480 aircraft annually, decreasing to 360 annually for 1978.³ Production was estimated at 30 aircraft per month from January 1978 through July 1979. Table 2 reflects the production activity observed at the plant during this reporting period. It should be noted, however, that even though production was estimated to be reduced, the number of COLT aircraft observed on overhead imagery during 1979 increased over previous years.

12. (TSR) The M-15 agricultural jet, for which series production began in 1976, was produced at the rate of 20 per year in 1976, 35 in 1977, and 45 in 1978. In 1979, production through July was estimated to have increased to five aircraft per month.³ A continual increase in plant activity (Table 2) tends to support other evidence that a rise in production from previous levels has occurred.

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Table 1.
Mensural and Construction Data, Molec Airframe Plant WSK,
(Keyed to Figure 2)

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Item*	Function	Dimensions**			Floorspace sq m	Observed Complete	Remarks
		L	W	H			
l	Assem bldg				27,543.4		
a	Assem sec				17,372.7		
b	Admin/engr sec				5,674.5		Multistory sec Multistory sec
c	Admin/engr sec				2,998.8		
d	Spt sec				814.8		
e	Spt sec				682.6		
42	Forge/foundry bldg addition				3,000.0		Midstage of construction as of []
d	Shop sec				2,040.0		
e	Shop sec				960.0		
44	Warehouse addition				17,679.4		
d	Warehouse sec				11,270.2		Multistory sec Multistory sec
e	Admin sec				5,733.0		
f	Spt sec				676.2		
63	Stor/spt bldg				1,272.0		
67b	Admin sec				1,911.0		
69	Subassem bldg				8,488.0		Late stage of construction as of []
a	Subassem sec				5,194.0		
b	Spt sec				658.8		
c	Admin/eng sec				2,635.2		Multistory sec
70	Spt bldg				100.1		
71	Spt bldg				321.2		
72	Subassem bldg				10,407.8		Floorspace data tentative pending completion of construction
a	Subassem sec				8,869.4		
b	Admin/engr sec				1,538.4		
73	Spt bldg				139.8		
74	Spt bldg				110.3		
a	Spt sec				87.3		
b	Spt sec				23.0		
75	Prob shop bldg				2,304.0		
76	Shop bldg				160.8		
77	Shop bldg				534.8		
a	Shop sec				120.0		
b	Shop sec				178.6		
c	Shop sec				236.2		
78	Support bldg				159.0		Height at eave
a	Spt sec				131.0		
b	Spt sec				28.0		
79	Shop bldg				1,039.4		
80	Shop bldg				2,485.7		
81	Stor bldg				637.0		
82	Prob warehouse				10,599.4		Floorspace data tentative pending completion of construction
a	Warehouse sec				8,481.7		
b	Admin sec				2,117.7		
83	Unid bldg				11,913.2		Observed ucon
84	Stor/spt bldg				969.0		Observed ucon
85	Unid bldg				2,435.0		Early stage of construction
86	Stor/spt bldg				184.0		
Total floorspace					104,394.3		

*This table and Figure 2 supersede the numbering system used in the previous report, [] and coincide with the numbering system used in the original basic report, []

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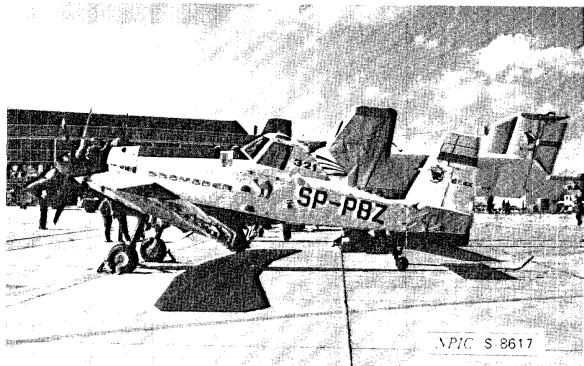


FIGURE 4. M-18 AIRCRAFT

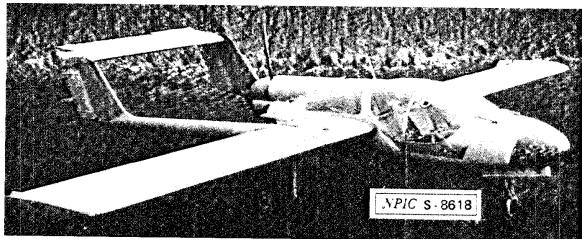


FIGURE 5. POLISH M-17 TRAINER AIRCRAFT

Table 2.
Aircraft in Production
At Mielec From 1975—1979

This table in its entirety is classified TOP SECRET RUFF

	COLT	ISKRA	M-15	M-18
	8	9	4	—
	18	9	4	—
	35	5	4	—
	21	2	1	—
	26	—	4	—
	22	1	6	—
	6	4	7	—
	19	—	14	2
	35	—	14	—
	48	—	14	—
	48	—	10	—
	44	—	13	—

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13. (TSR) The production rate of the ISKRA aircraft is more difficult to assess. Although a production rate of two per month was projected,³ no ISKRA were observed in the plant or checkout area during 1979. Prior to that, relatively small numbers were observed in 1976 and 1977 (Table 2).

14. (TSR) Series production of the M-18, a US-Polish agricultural aircraft (Figure 4), began early in 1979.³ This is corroborated by the observation of two M-18 aircraft in the airfield flight test and checkout area on imagery of [] (Table 2).

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15. (S/WNINTEL) Other aircraft reported in, or almost ready for, production but unobserved at the plant include the AN-28 (CASH) and the M-20 (SENECA II; GULL).^{4,5} The Antonov-designed CASH aircraft will be produced under license to the Soviets and the GULL will be produced under license to the US Piper Corporation.³

16. (C) In addition to the production of these aircraft, Mielec is also involved in the manufacture of parts for the IL-86 (CAMBER) airbus. Mielec is reported to be constructing the elevator, wing flaps, and vertical tail units.⁴

17. (C) Mielec is also involved in the production of nonaircraft-related items. Approximately 8,000 golf carts, over 1,000 refrigerated trucks, and over 20,000 diesel engines are produced at this plant per year.⁴

Research, Development, and Testing

18. (S/WNINTEL) Significant research, development, and testing of new aircraft is also conducted at the plant. The M-17, a two/three seat trainer aircraft⁶ (Figure 5), was constructed at Mielec and the prototype was first observed on imagery of [] in the flight test and checkout area annotated on Figure 2.

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19. (TSR) A mockup of the Piper-produced PA-35 (POCONO) aircraft (Figure 6) was observed on a small secured apron in the southeastern plant area on imagery of []. The mockup resembles an L-410 Turbolet except that the wings are mounted low on the fuselage. The POCONO aircraft is intended for use as a commuter, executive, or cargo transport and will accommodate up to 17 passengers.⁷ The fuselage is [] in length with a wingspan of []. Since the Poles are already under license from the Piper Corporation to build the GULL aircraft, they may also be under license to produce the POCONO aircraft.

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20. (TSR) On imagery of [] a PZL-110 was observed on the compass rose at the plant, probably undergoing testing. The aircraft, which entered production at Warszawa Aerospace Institute Okęcie Iłot [] in 1979, was reported to be a Polish version of the French SOCATA Rallye 100 ST.⁵ However, imagery of [] revealed that the cockpit area is more enclosed than the 100 ST, which would indicate that the Poles are producing a different model or that they have modified the 100 ST.

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Security

21. (S/WNINTEL) The plant is surrounded by a [] fence/wall topped with barbed wire. Some sections are made of brick and some of wire mesh.⁴ The facility fenceline was extended during this reporting period to encompass some of the new buildings on the eastern side of the plant (Figure 3).

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REFERENCES

IMAGERY

(TSR) All available KEYHOLE imagery acquired between [] 25X1
[] was used in the preparation of this report. 25X1

Small-Format Imagery

Figure No	Agency	Accession No	Classification
4	CIA	1479630	CONFIDENTIAL
5	Jane's	(79—80 ed)	UNCLASSIFIED

MAPS OR CHARTS

DMAAC. US Air Target Chart, Series 200, Sheet FP0232-14HL, 5th ed, Dec 77, scale 1:200,000 (SECRET)

DOCUMENTS

1. NPIC. [] RCA-09/0070/75, *Mielec Airframe Plant WSK*, Jun 75 (TOP SECRET [] 25X1
2. NPIC. [] RCA-09/0051/73, *Mielec Airframe Plant WSK*, May 73 (TOP SECRET [] 25X1
3. DIA. DDB-1923-2A-79-SAO, *Foreign Aircraft Production (FOAP) Communist World*, Nov 79 (TOP SECRET [] 25X1
[] 25X1
4. US Dept of State. Airgram 46290066-79, *Visit to Aircraft Factory at Mielec in Southeastern Poland*, 14 Feb 79 (CONFIDENTIAL)
5. *Jane's All the World's Aircraft*, 79—80 ed (UNCLASSIFIED)
6. *Jane's All the World's Aircraft*, 78—79 ed (UNCLASSIFIED)
7. *Jane's All the World's Aircraft*, 68—69 ed (UNCLASSIFIED)

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REQUIREMENT

COMIREX J02
Project 290011DJ

(S) Comments and queries regarding this report are welcome. They may be directed to [] Warsaw Pact 25X1
Forces Division, Imagery Exploitation Group, NPIC, [] 25X1

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